

Serial No. 10/657,731  
60130-1883; 02MRA0333

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle door latch control system, comprising:  
a latch mechanism motor;  
a bus;  
at least one occupant-operable regulator; and  
a door controller connected to the latch mechanism motor, the bus and ~~said the~~ at least one occupant-operable regulator, wherein the door controller containing includes door controller logic that detects a fault in the bus and that assigns control of the latch mechanism motor to one of said regulators the at least one occupant-operable regulator upon detection of the fault, and  
wherein the door controller logic operates the latch mechanism motor to a security locking state when the door controller detects actuation of the at least one occupant-operable regulator.
- 2-3. (CANCELLED)
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ at least one occupant-operable regulator is at least one selected from the group consisting of an inside door regulator, a central locking regulator, and a window lifter regulator.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 4, wherein ~~said the~~ at least one occupant-operable regulator is the inside door regulator, and ~~wherein the system further comprises includes~~ an inside door regulator contact, wherein the door controller logic operates the latch mechanism motor when the fault is detected in the bus and when the inside door regulator contact indicates that the inside door regulator is actuated.
6. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 1, wherein the bus is a multiplexed bus.

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7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 1, further ~~comprising~~ including a door closing contact, wherein the door controller logic operates the latch mechanism motor when ~~a~~ the fault is detected in the bus and when the door closing contact indicates that ~~the~~ a vehicle door is closed.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A door controller for a vehicle door, comprising:  
a first terminal to connect the door controller to a bus;  
a second terminal to connect the door controller to a latch mechanism motor;  
at least one regulator terminal to connect the door controller to at least one occupant-operable regulator;  
detection logic that detects a fault in ~~a~~ the bus connected to ~~the~~ a bus connection terminal;  
and  
security locking logic that detects operation of the at least one occupant-operable regulator and issues a security locking command to the latch mechanism motor to perform security locking of a door latch mechanism if the detection logic detects the fault in the bus.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for controlling a vehicle door latch system mechanism ~~having~~ including a latch mechanism, a bus, and at least one occupant-operable regulator, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting a fault in the bus;  
assigning control of the latch mechanism to ~~one of said regulators~~ the at least one occupant-operable regulator upon detection of the fault; and  
operating the latch mechanism when the at least one occupant-operator regulator is actuated, wherein the step of operating includes security locking the latch mechanism.

10-11. (CANCELLED)

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of detecting actuation of an inside door regulator, wherein the step of operating step is conducted when the fault is detected in the bus and when ~~the~~ actuation of the inside door regulator is detected.

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13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of detecting a closed door, wherein ~~the~~ a door controller logic operates ~~the~~ a latch mechanism motor when ~~a~~ the fault is detected in the bus and when the closed door is detected.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, ~~in which~~ wherein the at least one occupant-operable regulator is a window lifter regulator, and ~~wherein the latch mechanism step~~ of operating step is performed if the window lifter regulator is actuated.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, ~~in which~~ wherein the at least one occupant-operable regulator is an inside door opening regulator, and ~~wherein the latch mechanism~~ step of operating step is performed if the inside door opening regulator is actuated.